

Slopes will probably be preferable to shafts unless the coal is found much disturbed by faults or trap-dykes. Large airways will be necessary to insure safety from explosions, and ventilation should be maintained by fans and not by furnaces.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS.

From the detailed descriptions of the explorations made at different points in this Deep River district the reader will doubtless be able to deduce conclusions as to its value and the possibility of mining being carried on remuneratively. For the convenience of those not interested in these details, or not sufficiently familiar with coal properties to perceive their import, the following *resume* is here subjoined.

1. That a bed of coal of good quality free from slate may be considered workable in this district if twenty-two or twenty-four inches thick.

2. In the area between Farmville and Gulf, a distance of about four and a half miles, two beds of coal exist that may be considered workable; that these beds are not of workable thickness and quality over all of this area, but are subject to the occurrence of deteriorated patches in which the beds are poor and thin; that it is not unlikely that the workable areas are disconnected, that is the coal may not be continuously workable from one locality to that next adjoining.

3. That the most promising area seems to be that lying between the openings on the Taylor place and Egypt.

4. That the disturbances occasioned by trapdykes and the presence of the dykes are serious impediments to successful mining.

5. That the coal found in the above described area is often sufficiently good to insure ready sale, but that to make and maintain a reputation that would insure a market it might be necessary to leave untouched those parts of a mine in which the coal was rather more sulphurous or more slaty than the average.